

In 1880, Bunting was living in Wilmington with his wife Augusta and three daughters and worked as a butcher. He was listed in the 1897 directory as living at 1215 Market Street. He was listed in the 1900 directory as still living on Market but with no occupation. By 1910, Melton was living in Wayne County.

Melton tried to return to the city in 1899 and the *Messenger* recounted the harassment he received: "his house was haunted ... one night voices were heard and forms were seen ominously circumambulating around his house ... the returned pilgrim took the hint and went hence again ... we have never learned whether it were Rough Riders or ghosts that made the manifestations."

Sources: New Hanover County Correspondence, North Carolina State Archives; Prather, *We Have Taken a City*; Reaves, *Strength Through Struggle*; 1860-1930 census; 1897, 1900 city directories; Bill Reaves Collection, New Hanover County Public Library; McDuffie, "Politics in Wilmington;" Cody, "After the Storm;" 1890, 1897, 1900 New Hanover County Tax Lists; *Messenger* March 31, 1899

Miller, George

George Miller was one of the black men who was reported as wounded as a result of the violence on November 10th. He was shot twice and died at City Hospital. Miller was listed as living in Cape Fear Township in 1880. He is not listed in the city directories. He was 28 at the time of his death.

Sources: *Dispatch*, November 11, 1898; New Hanover County Correspondence, North Carolina State Archives; Prather, *We Have Taken a City*; Reaves, *Strength Through Struggle*; 1860-1930 census; 1897, 1900 city directories; Bill Reaves Collection, New Hanover County Public Library; McDuffie, "Politics in Wilmington;" Cody, "After the Storm;" 1890, 1897, 1900 New Hanover County Tax Lists.

Miller, Thomas C.

Thomas C. Miller was an African American leader targeted for banishment because of his activity in the Republican Party and, as oral tradition speculates, because he was one of the most successful businessmen in the city – owed money by blacks and whites. Miller was quoted in a Washington paper as threatening to wash his hands in white man's blood before nightfall on day of riot. Miller's arrest and banishment is discussed in Chapter 6 of this report. Miller was deeply affected by the arrest and banishment and asked to return in 1899. His request was denied. He still maintained business contact with individuals in the city and his wife and son remained to handle much of his affairs. In 1901, Miller gave Marsden Bellamy power of attorney to handle his local affairs. Miller died in 1903 of paralysis resulting from a stroke in Norfolk. His remains were brought back to Wilmington for a funeral at his home on 6th between Walnut & Grace with services by Rev. Dr. Carmichael (rector at St. John's Episcopal Ch.) and burial at Pine Forest. It was speculated at the time of his death that he left an estate valued at \$10,000 although he had been disposing of his real estate in the city before his death.

Miller's death certificate listed his occupation as saloon keeper and that he lived at 176 Queen Street. The record also listed that he and his parents were born in North Carolina. Miller was 52 when he died.

Annie E. Miller, wife of Thomas C. Miller, was made executrix of his estate and bounded with Thomas Rivera and Thomas R. Mask to administer estate. The value of estate was estimated to be \$1,000. His heirs were Thomas Miller, Jr., Roscoe Miller, Susie Miller, Lula (Louisa) Miller, Charity Miller, and Annie E. Miller (wife). All of his children except for Thomas were minors under the age of 21. Annie swore in court that Thomas died without a will and agreed to provide necessary documents to Superior Court to settle estate. Annie also filed as executrix of his estate in Virginia.

Annie Miller, executrix of Miller estate, took legal action on behalf of his estate in 1903 against Andrew and Mary Pierce for non-payment on a mortgage loan. Her attorney was Marsden Bellamy; she won the suit and the land was sold to Walker Taylor for \$675.00. Miller was due \$537.27 on account but was paid only \$486.68 after payments to court (\$23.95), past taxes (\$139.37), and attorney fees (\$25.00) were paid. The sheriff removed Pierces from property so Taylor could occupy it. Annie Miller also filed suit against A.J. Taylor for non-payment of a loans owed by him to Thomas Miller dating from 1894, 1895, 1896; no records on file as to conclusion of case.

In 1880, he was a Deputy Sheriff with a wife Sally, 30. His son, Thomas Miller, Jr. was 4. Two boarders, Amelia Toomer, age 50 and Cornelia Toomer, age 16 lived with the Millers on Castle Street. In 1889, Miller operated a saloon and restaurant at 15 S. Water Street, the only one operated by a black person of 18 such establishments in the city at that time. His home was at 216 Castle. He was listed in the 1897 city directory as operating a business dealing in real estate and as a pawn broker at 7-9 Dock Street and he still lived on Castle. His son, Thomas C. Miller, Jr. worked for his father in that year. (His son was listed in